Press release

The outlook is mild

10 January 2002

While Britain is facing increasingly milder weather this week, temperatures have also been rising elsewhere around the world, according to the Met Office.

Citizens of Central Alaska have experienced temperatures of more than 4 °C this week. At this time of year they can usually expect the figure to be around -19°C. In Long Beach, California, better known for sunnier climes, the maximum temperature has been 29 °C, compared to an average of 18 °C.

Globally, 2001 was the second warmest year in the past 142 years and the UK saw the sunniest December since records began in 1909. However, this time of the year hasn't always been so mild, on January 10, 1982 temperatures reached a record low when they dipped to -27.2 °C in Braemar, in the Scottish Highlands.

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